

OCTOBER

AT THE
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

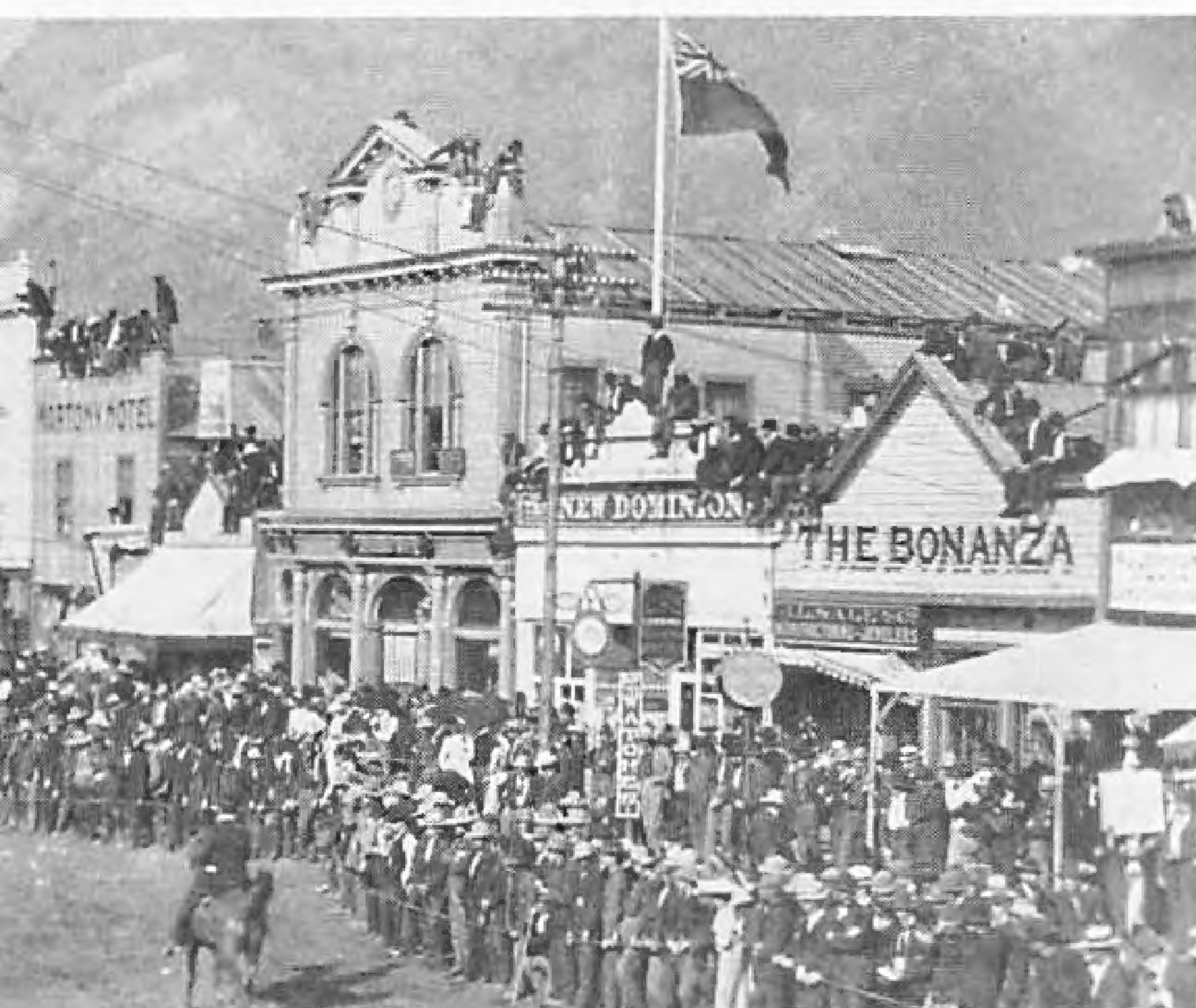
OCTOBER MEETINGS

Dates & Times: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 8
Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, October 8-9

Place: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Richard Finnie

Subject: "THE CHANGING YUKON"



Mr. Finnie, who was born in Dawson City, Y. T., has been an explorer, writer, lecturer, photographer and maker of film documentaries most of his life. In 1942, having specialized in the Canadian Arctic and Subarctic, he joined the Bechtel engineering-construction interests to assist in launching a World War II defense project in northwestern Canada and Alaska. Later, when based in San Francisco as official Bechtel Corporation historian, he covered world-wide projects in words and pictures until retirement in 1968.

Year after year, he has returned to the land of his birth, photographing it and writing about it. For the Academy presentations, he has combined recent color photographs with

rare black-and-white ones from his personal collection and will be able to show the Yukon as it was, as it is today, and what is developing.

Mr. Finnie is a fellow of the Explorers Club and the Arctic Club and the Arctic Institute of North America, and an honorary member of the Yukon Order of Pioneers.

Three presentations as usual and your membership card admits you through the main entrance, Cowell Hall. At the matinee performance you may be asked to present it once again at the auditorium entrance.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"OF MAN AND THE STARS" continues through November 23. Despite centuries-old probing of the mysteries of space, man's curiosity has never been and probably never will be satisfied. Performances daily at two with evening shows, Wednesday and Thursday, at eight. Extra matinees on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Admission: \$1.50 for adults, 50c for those young people 17 and under. Members are admitted free on presentation of one of the complimentary tickets issued with a membership.

LASERIUM

The highly successful laser light concert continues in the planetarium on week-ends. Performances Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 4:45, 7:30 and 9:00, with a late performance Friday and Saturday at 10:30. Admission is \$2.50 for all 4:45 shows and \$2.75 for all others. Members are reminded that this is *not* a planetarium show *nor* are your membership tickets or passes usable for this attraction.

Tickets are available in advance through Bay Area Seating Service Outlets (Discount Record stores, Pacific Stereo Stores, and Montgomery Ward). Any tickets remaining go on sale at the planetarium box-office one-half hour before show time. Telephone TELETIX for further information.

MORRISON AUDITORIUM

"THE ASCENT OF MAN" series of one-hour segments is shown every Saturday afternoon through December 6 at 2:30 and 8:00 p.m. There is no admission charge beyond the museum entrance fee which, of course, is free to all members. Herewith dates and subjects to be presented in October:

Oct. 4: **The Hidden Structure** (Chemistry)

Oct. 11: **Music of the Spheres**
(Mathematics)

Oct. 18: **The Starry Messenger** (Astronomy)

Oct. 25: **The Majestic Clockwork** (Physics)

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"THE GENIUS OF BENIAMINO BUFANO", a one-man show devoted to this late, great San Francisco artist, continues in Lovell White Hall through the end of the year.

"SKYLAB" continues in Hohfeld Gallery.

"CETACEA" (Marine mammals) continues in Cowell Hall.

NEW PERMANENT EXHIBIT

"AFRICAN ORIGINS OF MAN", a new addition to Simson African Hall, features a giant jigsaw puzzle wall and a forty-foot mural in color. — impressive, imaginative, informative.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF MONTHLY ACADEMY MEETINGS

November 12 (Open House)

December 10-11, and January 14-15

News and Notes

Brilliantly green with gold highlights, one would never suspect that the inch-long beetle is over a thousand years old. For those centuries, this particular specimen was imbedded in the ancient wood of the Todaiji Temple at Nara, Japan, that houses the colossal bronze image of Buddha or "Daibutsu". The enormous building is reputedly the oldest existing wooden structure in the world.

It all began when Mr. Austin Morrill of San Francisco was a member of the occupation forces in Japan in 1951. Mr. Morrill happened to be in Nara and at the site of the temple when some much-needed repairs were underway, reinforcing the foundation of Todaiji, mainly because of the massive accumulation of dust that posed a definite threat to the great building. Workmen were extracting numbers of the aforementioned beetle (known commonly as Tamamushi) and placing them to one side for eventual incorporation in the re-decoration of the temple. Mr. Morrill ventured some comment to the fact that these marvelous antiques were certainly uncommon and that living duplicates could be found in nearby forest areas.

"Buddha put them there", he was told, "and there they should remain." Mr. Morrill considered himself fortunate when he was allowed a single specimen for his own. Known scientifically as *Chrysochroa fulgidissima* Schoenherr, the specimen is now in the collections of the Department of Entomology along with other treasured gifts from Mr. Morrill.

Though the initial request for volunteers was highly rewarding, there is a further need for typists as the challenging plans for the Wattis Hall of Man evolve. The diversified anthropological material is exciting to work with and there is nothing ordinary about the entire project.

If you are interested and can give us a few hours a week, please telephone the Development Office at 221-5100, Extension 63.



The Academy has recently been honored by the newly independent African nation, the Comoro Islands (or Archipel des Comores) with the issue of a commemorative stamp saluting the recent CAS expedition in search of a coelacanth, the newsworthy "living fossil".

Scientists and divers spent six weeks during February and March of this year at that remote archipelago in the Indian Ocean, and though they were not successful in returning with a live specimen they did come home with two frozen ones. These will soon be on display in Steinhart Aquarium.

The design of the stamp is the work of Bay Area artist Roderick MacPherson.

TRAVEL NOTES

Mendocino Mushrooming - Dec. 13-14, 1975

Dr. Robert Orr will lead a weekend of mushrooming along the Mendocino coast, December 13-14. Leaving from the Academy at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, we will travel by chartered bus to Mendocino, via Anderson Valley. Overnight at the Little River Inn. Up early Sunday for a day driving down the coast, stopping at different mushroom localities. Return to the Academy late Sunday afternoon. Included: transportation, motel, two box lunches. Cost: \$55 per person, plus \$6 single supplement. Limited to one bus. Reservations by mail only to the Travel Office of the Academy.

Your attention is directed to the back cover of the current issue of "PACIFIC DISCOVERY" for details on the upcoming Barranca de Cobre train trip, October 25-November 2. Also, reservations are being accepted for the popular repeats on our boat trip down the West Coast of Baja California, February 14-20, 1976, and the overland Guatemala trip, February 14 through March 3, 1976.

MEET THE STAFF



RICHARD SANJOUR, Assistant Supervisor, Morrison Planetarium, is a native New Yorker, a product of its schools, and a graduate of Columbia University. He began as a chemistry major but ended up receiving his B.A. in French. A scholarship at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, gained him a Master's degree in Romance Philology after which he taught French in a private school for four years, traveling abroad whenever time permitted. In 1965 he headed a group of young people on a summer tour of Europe.

For a brief period he was a sales service representative with Sabena Airlines, a position which allowed him to indulge in both his love of languages and of travel. The latter introduced him to San Francisco. A seed had been sown, for in 1967 he bought himself a car and proceeded to cross the United States in a leisurely manner, ending in the City by the Bay.

All of his life, Rik has been interested in drawing and art and by a unique stroke of luck, his first significant San Francisco job was as a medical illustrator at the University of California Medical Center. Also, along with art, he has always been attracted by the field of astronomy (the Hayden Planetarium in New York was a favorite, youthful hangout) and so it was only natural that he gravitate toward our Morrison Planetarium. He inquired about lecturing and was told that, on occasion, there was a need for extra personnel. He forthwith enrolled in a new course in Planetarium Astronomy at San Francisco State offered by Professor Charles Hagar of the planetarium

staff. Rik gave his first professional performance in 1970. In January 1974, he was offered his present job as Assistant Supervisor to the planetarium's chief, Capt. Robert Risser.

Rik has many interests including music (he plays piano), drawing, microscopes, telescopes, and getting to the quiet places via backpack. He is in love with the whole State of California and intends to explore it thoroughly whenever he possibly can.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

REGULAR MEMBERS

Mr. Marshall Andrew	Miss Lucille V. Lewis
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Mr. Lionel J. Gazeau	Sally J. Robbins &
Miss Marguerite B. Gilbert	Jack W. Applegarth
Miss Wendy W. Gleason	Miss Wilma Rockman
Miss Jeanne F. Glennon	Miss Carol Segal
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Grundman	Mrs. Hilda M. Shephard
Mr. Thaddeus A. Grzelak	Mr. John F. Sommerfield
Miss Patricia J. Hughes	Mr. Philip J. Stockhausen
Mrs. Arnold E. Ilog, Sr.	L. Kimo Tanaka
Mr. Edward J. Irvine	Miss Lynn Tennefoss
Mr. Robert Kerrigan	Dr. & Mrs. S. Tischler
Mr. Robert B. Kimsey	Miss Lisa Trygg
Mr. Richard Kiyomoto	Miss Evelyn J. Walker
Mr. Gary Lachler	Mr. James T. Wheary
	Miss Alice R. Workman

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Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Birnbaum	Joe Michalski & Candy McCombs
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Mr. & Mrs. Jerry D. Burns	Mr. & Mrs. Kevin O'Farrell
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Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Mancuso	Mr. Gary F. Wirth
Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Woodward	

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Miss Kathleen M. Brady	Mr. Thomas D. Hoard
Miss Emily Duffield-Vahrenwald	Miss Jannice E. Vahrenwald

THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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CALIFORNIA ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER

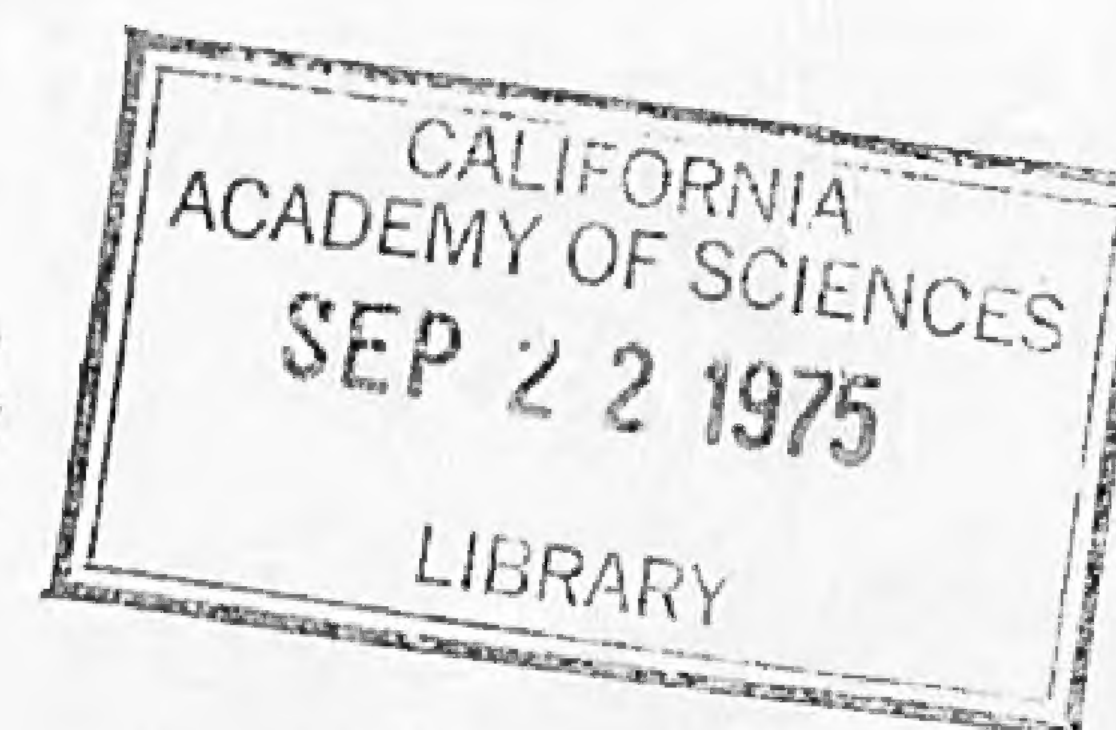
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